

## DUBERSTEIN, KENNETH M.: Files, 1981-1983, 1987-1989 – REAGAN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Material noted **in bold** within this collection is currently available for research use. If a folder is available for research use it may still have withdrawn material due to Freedom of Information Act restrictions. Most frequent withdrawn material is national security classified material, personal privacy, protection of the President, etc. Any non-bolded folder is closed for research.

The non-bolded folders are subject to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

If you are interested in submitting a FOIA request for access to any of the unavailable records or have any questions about these collections or series, please contact our archival staff at 1-800-410-8354, outside the US at 1-805-577-4012, or email [reagan.library@nara.gov](mailto:reagan.library@nara.gov).

### **DUBERSTEIN, KENNETH M.: Files, 1981-1983**

Office of Legislative Affairs, 1981-1983

Office of the Chief of Staff, 1987-1989 ([see separate inventory](#))

#### **Collection Note**

Kenneth Duberstein served in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs from 1981-1983. Later in the Reagan Administration, Kenneth Duberstein worked in the Office of the Chief of Staff from March 1987 until President Reagan left office in January 1989. Please see the separate finding aid for Duberstein's Chief of Staff files.

#### **Biography**

Kenneth M. Duberstein (1944-2022) was a former government official, lobbyist and political consultant.

Duberstein was born in Brooklyn, New York on April 21, 1944. He graduated from Poly Prep Day School and received his B.A. from Franklin and Marshall College in Pennsylvania. A Franklin and Marshall professor helped Duberstein become a Washington intern for Senator Jacob Javits (R-New York), and during this internship, Duberstein earned a Master's degree in American Political Dynamics from American University. He attended New York Law School for a year, then returned to Franklin and Marshall as an administrative assistant to its president.

Duberstein was hired by the General Services Administration (GSA) in 1970, and became Director of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs for this federal agency in 1972. He left GSA in August 1976 and joined the Department of Labor as a Deputy Under Secretary. After President Ford left office in 1977, Duberstein became a director for the Committee for Economic Development, a Washington public policy organization.

When President Reagan took office in January 1981, Duberstein joined the new administration in

the Office of Legislative Affairs. He was the liaison with the House of Representatives. Duberstein became head of Legislative Affairs in December of that year.

In December 1983, Duberstein left the White House and took a position with Timmons & Company Inc., the lobbying and public relations firm headed by former Reagan campaign and transition director William Timmons. Duberstein returned to work for the Committee for Economic Development as a Vice President and Director of Business-Government Relations. Duberstein also headed the Congressional Liaison Team for the 1984 Reagan-Bush campaign organization.

In 1987 Duberstein returned to the White House as the deputy to the new Chief of Staff, Howard Baker, with responsibility for most of the White House's day-to-day operations. When Baker announced his resignation in June 1988, he recommended that Duberstein succeed him as Chief of Staff, and this recommendation was followed.

Duberstein, who had a reputation as an efficient manager, saw to the smooth operation of the White House during the last six months of the Reagan Presidency. In addition, he acted as a chief policy adviser to the President, and helped develop and deliver White House support for George Bush's 1988 Presidential campaign. After Election Day, President Reagan appointed Duberstein the chief Administration coordinator for the transition to the incoming Bush Administration.

In January 1989, Duberstein was awarded the President's Citizen's Medal by President Reagan.

Upon leaving the White House, Duberstein founded The Duberstein Group, a Washington, DC planning and consulting firm. He served as Chairman and CEO. In addition, Duberstein maintained an active service life. He was the chairman of the Ethics Committee for the U.S. Olympic Committee and served as vice chairman of the independent Special Bid Oversight Reform Commission for the U.S. Olympics Committee. He also appeared on Bloomberg alongside John Podesta.

Duberstein served on multiple corporate boards included Boeing, ConocoPhillips and the Fleming Companies. He was also on the Board of Governors for the American Stock Exchange and NASD, and served on the Board of Directors of Fannie Mae. He served on the advisory board for Washington, DC based non-profit America Abroad Media.

Duberstein was also a technical consultant for the television series *The West Wing*.

Duberstein suffered from chronic kidney disease and eventually received a kidney transplant from his son in 2014. Duberstein passed away on March 2, 2022 from a long illness. He is survived by his current wife, Jacqueline Fain and four children from his previous two marriages.

### **Scope & Content**

This collection list is based on a preliminary arrangement and description of the Duberstein Legislative Affairs Office Collection done in 1991. It consists of six preliminary series: SERIES I: Memorandums, January 1981-November 1983; SERIES II: Correspondence, 1981-1983;

SERIES III: Briefing Memos, January 1981-December 1983; SERIES IV: Subject File: Subseries A: 1983 Budget Files; SERIES IV: Subject File: Subseries B: Alpha File; SERIES V: Personnel, January 1981-November 1983; SERIES VI: Personal Material, December 1981-November 1983.

A small amount of additional Duberstein Office of Legislative Affairs files was found after the completion of the preliminary arrangement. They are in OA 3113 and concern photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

SERIES I: MEMORANDUMS, January 1981-November 1983

OA 6026

**Friedersdorf Memos - January 1981**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - February 1981 (1)-(3)**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - March 1981 (1)-(4)**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - April 1981 (1)(2)**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - May 1981**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - June 1981**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - July 1981**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - August 1981**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - September 1981 (1)(2)**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - October 1981 (1)(2)**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - November 1981**  
**Friedersdorf Memos - December 1981**

OA 12430

1981 Staff Memos January 1981-June 1981 (1)-(4)  
Staff Memos June 1981-December 1981 (1)-(4)  
**November/December [Memos to Friedersdorf, 1981] (1)(2)**  
**October [Memos to Friedersdorf, 1981] (1)(2)**  
**September [Memos to Friedersdorf, 1981] (1)-(3)**  
**August Memos to Friedersdorf [1981]**  
**July Memos to Friedersdorf [1981] (1)(2)**  
**June Memos to Friedersdorf [1981]**  
**May Memos to Friedersdorf [1981]**  
**April Memos to Friedersdorf [1981]**  
**March Memos to Friedersdorf [1981]**  
**February Memos to Friedersdorf [1981]**  
**January Memos to Friedersdorf [1981]**  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] A  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] B  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] C  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] E  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] F  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] G  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] H

[Alpha Memo File 1981] K  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] N  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] P  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] R  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] S  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] T  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] V  
[Alpha Memo File 1981] W

OA 8348

**Memos from Duberstein (January 1982-December 1982) (1)-(3)**

**January - Duberstein Memos 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos - February 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos - March 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos - April 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos - May 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos - June 1982 (1)-(2)**

**Duberstein Memos - July 1982 (1)(2)**

**Duberstein Memos - August 1982**

**Duberstein Memos - September 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos - October 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos - November, 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos - December, 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Staff Memos-January 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Staff Memos-February 1982 (1)(2)**

**Staff Memos-March 1982 (1)-(4)**

**Staff Memos-April 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Staff Memos-May 1982 (1)(2)**

**Staff Memos-June 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Staff Memos-July 1982 (1)(2)**

**Staff Memos-August 1982 (1)(2)**

**Staff Memos-September 1982 (1)(2)**

**Staff Memos-October 1982 (1)-(3)**

**Staff Memos-November 1982 (1)(2)**

**Staff Memos-December 1982**

OA 8615

**Legislative Affairs-Weekly Update (1)-(5)**

**Duberstein Memos-January 1983 (1)-(4)**

**Duberstein Memos-February 1983 (1)-(5)**

**Duberstein Memos-March 1983 (1)-(4)**

**Duberstein Memos-April 1983 (1)-(4)**

**Duberstein Memos-May 1983 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos-June 1983 (1)-(5)**

**Duberstein Memos-July 1983 (1)-(4)**

**Duberstein Memos-August 1983 (1)-(3)**

**Duberstein Memos-September 1983 (1)-(3)**  
**[Duberstein Memos-October 1983] (1)-(11)**  
**[Duberstein Memos-November 1983] (1)-(8)**  
**[General Correspondence-1982] (1)(2)**  
**Staff Memos January 1983 (1)-(3)**  
**Staff Memos February 1983**  
**Staff Memos March 1983**  
**Staff Memos April 1983**  
**Staff Memos May 1983**  
**Staff Memos June 1983 (1)(2)**  
**Staff Memos July 1983**  
**Staff Memos August 1983**  
**Staff Memos September 1983**  
**Staff Memos October 1983**  
**Staff Memos November 1983**  
**Memos to Ken From the White House Staff (Outside Legislative Affairs) [November 1983-February 1982] (1)-(3)**  
**Memos From Bob Thompson January 1982-March 1982**  
**Memos From Bob Thompson April 1982-June 1982**  
**Memos From Bob Thompson July 1982-September 1982**  
**Memo From Leg. Affairs to Member of W. H. Staff [1981, 1983] (1)-(4)**  
**Memos to Bob Thompson From Legislative Affairs**  
**Memos to Loesje Edwards**

**SERIES II: CORRESPONDENCE, 1981-1983**

OA 6027

**1981 Special Congressional Correspondence (1)-(6)**  
**Presidential Letters [1982] (1)-(5)**  
**Signing Pen Letters [1982-1983]**

**SERIES III: BRIEFING MEMOS, January 1981-December 1983**

OA 6027, cont.

**Briefing Memos-Transition [Presidential 1981]**  
**Briefing Memos-January [Presidential 1981]**  
**Briefing Memos-February [Presidential 1981] (1)(2)**  
**Briefing Memos-March [Presidential 1981] (1)-(4)**  
**Briefing Memos-April [Presidential 1981]**  
**Briefing Memos-May [Presidential 1981] (1)-(3)**  
**Briefing Memos-June [Presidential 1981] (1)(2)**  
**Briefing Memos-July [Presidential 1981] (1)-(5)**  
**Briefing Memos-August [Presidential 1981]**  
**Briefing Memos-September [Presidential 1981]**  
**Briefing Memos-October [Presidential 1981] (1)-(3)**  
**Briefing Memos-November [Presidential 1981]**  
**Briefing Memos-December, 1980 [1981] [Presidential 1981]**  
**Presidential Memorandums [1981] (1)-(3)**

**V.P. Memorandums**

**Schedule Proposals January-June [Presidential 1981] (1)-(3)**  
**Schedule Proposals July-December [Presidential 1981] (1)-(3)**  
**Schedule Proposals Disapproved [Presidential January 1981-March 1981]**  
**Schedule Requests [Presidential 1981] (1)-(3)**  
**Schedule Requests, Disapproved [Presidential 1981]**  
**Telephone Calls, Recommended July 1981-December 1981 [Presidential] (1)-(6)**  
**Telephone Calls, Recommended January 1981-June 1981 [Presidential] (1)-(4)**

OA 12433

**[Presidential] Briefing Memorandum - January 1982**  
**[Presidential] Briefing [Memorandum] - February 1982 (1)(2)**  
**[Presidential] Briefing [Memorandum] - March 1982**  
**[Presidential] Briefing [Memorandum] - April 1982**  
**[Presidential] Briefing Memorandum - May 1982 (1)(2)**  
**[Presidential] Briefing Memorandum - June 1982**  
**[Presidential] Briefing Memorandum - July 1982 (1)-(3)**  
**[Presidential] Briefing Memorandum - August 1982 (1)-(5)**  
**[Presidential] Briefing Memorandum - September 1982**  
**[Presidential] Briefing Memorandum - October 1982**  
**[Presidential] Briefing [Memorandum] - November 1982**  
**[Presidential] Briefing Memorandum - December 1982 (1)(2)**  
**Presidential Memorandums 1982 (1)-(3)**  
**Vice-Presidential Memorandum 1982 (1)-(5)**  
**Schedule Proposals July 1982-December 1982 (1)-(4)**  
**Schedule Proposals January 1982-June 1982 (1)-(4)**  
**Schedule Requests January 1982-June 1982**  
**Recommended Telephone Calls July 1982-December 1982 (1)-(9)**  
**Recommended Telephone Calls January 1982-June 1982 (1)-(6)**

OA 12434

**Briefing Memos January, 1983 [Presidential] (1)(2)**  
**Briefing Memos February, 1983 [Presidential] (1)(2)**  
**Briefing Memos March, 1983 [Presidential] (1)-(3)**  
**Briefing Memorandums April, 1983 [Presidential] (1)-(3)**  
**Briefing Papers-May 1983 [Presidential] (1-3)**  
**Briefing Papers-June 1983 [Presidential] (1)(2)**  
**Briefing Papers-July 1983 [Presidential] (1)(2)**  
**Briefing Papers-August 1983 [Presidential] (1)(2)**  
**Briefing Papers-September 1983 [Presidential] (1)(2)**  
**Briefing Papers-October 1983 [Presidential] (1)-(3)**  
**Briefing Papers-November 1983 [Presidential] (1)(2)**  
**Schedule Proposals January 1983-June 1983 [Presidential] (1)-(3)**  
**Recommended Telephone Calls V.P. July 1983-November 1983 [Presidential] (1)-(3)**  
**Recommended Telephone Calls V.P. February 1983-July 1983] (1)(2)**  
**Recommended Phone Calls-January 1983-June 1983 [Presidential] (1)-(9)**

**Recommended Phone Calls- July 1983-December 1983 [Presidential] (1)-(8)**  
**[Recommended Phone Calls] Not sent forward [1983- Presidential]**

SERIES IV: SUBJECT FILE, 1981-1983:  
SUBSERIES A: 1983 Budget Files

OA 6029

**Tax Bill (1)-(15)**  
**Budget Material (1)-(14)**  
**[Budget Calls] (1)-(4)**  
**The Gang [Group] of 17 (1)-(3)**  
**Budget Conference Report**  
**Urgent Supplemental (1)(2)**  
**[Supplemental Appropriations] (1)-(4)**  
**[Summary Allocations]**  
**Supplemental Appropriations**

OA 12432

SERIES IV: SUBJECT FILE, 1981-1983:  
SUBSERIES B: Alpha File

**Departmental CGR Meetings**  
**Department CGR memos (1)-(4)**  
**Potential CGR Invitations**  
**Decontrol of Natural Gas (1)-(4)**  
**Ray Donovan**  
**ELF [Extremely Low Frequency] Communication System**  
**Fundraising Requests (1)-(3)**  
**Highway User Fees**  
**Jobs Training Bill (1)-(5)**  
**Judicial Appointments - Federal Judges, U.S. Attorneys and Marshals**  
**Kennedy Center [1981]**  
**Legal Service Corporation**  
**Legislative Affairs Weekly Update**  
**Legislative Strategy Agenda**  
**Long Term Grain Agreement (1)(2)**  
**GOP Leadership Meetings [1981]**  
**Leadership Meetings – House [1981]**  
**Leadership Meetings – Senate [1981]**  
**Military Sales to Saudi Arabia (1)-(4)**  
**Nominations (1)-(11)**  
**Nuclear Arms Resolution**  
**Nuclear Power Initiative**  
**Judge Sandra O'Connor**  
**Out Reach Strategy Group (1)(2)**

OA 14829

George Schultz Nomination

**Synthetic Fuels**  
**Social Security (1)(2)**  
**Standby Petroleum Allocation**  
**Telecommunication Reforms**  
CGR Travel  
Codel Travel  
[Presidential] Travel  
**Voting Rights (1)-(4)**

SERIES V: PERSONNEL, January 1981-November 1983  
OA 14829, cont.  
Travel 1981 [Friedersdorf]  
KMD's Travel [Duberstein March 1982-November 1983]  
Personnel Announcements 1981-1982 (1)(2)

SERIES VI: PERSONAL, December 1981-November 1983  
OA 14829, cont.  
Duberstein Personal

The following material was added to the collection after the completion of the above arrangement.

OA 3113  
February 1981 Photos  
March 1981 Photos  
April 1981 Photos  
May 1981 Photos  
June 1981 Photos  
July 1981 Photos  
August 1981 Photos  
September 1981 Photos  
October 1981 Photos  
November 1981 Photos  
December 1981 Photos